



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

***Raised Bill No. 5789***

LCO No. 2839

\*02839\_\_\_\_\_PH\_\*

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLIC  
UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD BANK AND UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD  
DONATIONS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) On or before January 1, 2007,  
2       The University of Connecticut Health Center, in collaboration with the  
3       Commissioner of Public Health, shall establish, operate and maintain a  
4       public umbilical cord blood bank for the purpose of collecting and  
5       storing umbilical cord blood and placental tissue donated by maternity  
6       patients at hospitals licensed in this state.

7       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) On or before January 1, 2007,  
8       the Department of Public Health shall establish a program to educate  
9       maternity patients with respect to the subject of cord blood banking.  
10      Such program shall provide maternity patients with sufficient  
11      information to make an informed decision on whether or not to  
12      participate in a private or public umbilical cord blood banking  
13      program and shall include, but not be limited to, (1) an explanation of  
14      the difference between public and private umbilical cord blood  
15      banking, (2) the medical process involved in umbilical cord blood

16 banking, (3) the current and potential future medical uses of stored  
 17 umbilical cord blood, (4) the benefits and risks involved in banking  
 18 umbilical cord blood, and (5) the availability and cost of storing  
 19 umbilical cord blood and placental tissue in public and private  
 20 umbilical cord blood banks.

21 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2007*) (a) Each physician licensed  
 22 to practice medicine under chapter 370 of the general statutes and each  
 23 hospital licensed under chapter 368v of the general statutes shall  
 24 inform each pregnant patient under the physician's or hospital's care,  
 25 not later than thirty days from the commencement of the patient's  
 26 third trimester of pregnancy, of the opportunity to donate to the public  
 27 umbilical cord blood bank, established under section 1 of this act,  
 28 blood and tissue extracted from the umbilical cord and placenta,  
 29 following delivery of a newborn child, at no cost to the patient.

30 (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to:

31 (1) Obligate a hospital to collect umbilical cord blood or placental  
 32 tissue if, in the professional judgment of a physician licensed to  
 33 practice medicine in this state, the collection would threaten the health  
 34 of the mother or child;

35 (2) Prohibit a maternity patient from donating or storing blood  
 36 extracted from the umbilical cord or placenta of the patient's newborn  
 37 child to a private umbilical cord blood and placental tissue bank; or

38 (3) Impose a requirement upon attending medical personnel who  
 39 object to umbilical cord blood or placental tissue donation as being in  
 40 conflict with their religious tenets and practice.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2007</i>	New section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To establish a public umbilical cord blood bank and to require physicians and hospitals to inform pregnant patients of the option to donate umbilical cord blood to the blood bank following childbirth.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*